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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Name: Jocelyn Lee

Signature:

In re Application for:

Oxana IBRAGHIMOV-BESKROVNAYA et al.

Serial No.: 09/830,506

Filing Date: April 26, 2001

COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS For:

FOR TREATING KIDNEY DISEASE

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned RECEIVED

Group Art Unit: 1614

JAN 1 8 2000

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

MAR 2 7 2002

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request the following amendments to the attached specification.

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the subject application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph: